

REMARKS

Claims 1-21, 24, 26-28 and 30 were examined and reported in the Office Action. Claims 1-21, 24, 26-28 and 30 are rejected. Claims 1-21, 24, 26-28 and 30 remain.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

I. 35 U.S.C. §103

A. It is asserted in the Office Action that claims 1-3, 7-11, and 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent No. 5,956,407 issued to Slavin ("Slavin"), in view of U. S. Patent 5,933,501 issued to Leppek ("Leppek") and further in view of U.S. Patent 4,797,672 issued to Kousa ("Kousa"). Applicant respectfully traverses the aforementioned rejection for the following reasons.

According to MPEP §2142

[t]o establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant's disclosure." (In re Vaeck, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991)). Further, according to MPEP §2143.03, "[t]o establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. (In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974)." *"All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art."* (In re Wilson, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970), emphasis added.)

Applicant's amended claim 1 contains the limitations of

... a key generating section, the key generating section to generate a plurality of individual keys based on a main key, each of said plurality of individual keys is different from one another; a decryption generating section coupled to the key generating section and a main decryption section, the decryption generating section to generate a plurality of individual decryption processes based on the main decryption section and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes is different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another; and a main encryption section, the main encryption section using the main key to encrypt content, wherein only a one of the plurality of individual keys is used in conjunction with only a one of the plurality of decryption processes, and each of the plurality of decryption processes and its respective individual key can decrypt content encrypted by the main encryption section.

Applicant's amended claim 7 contains the limitations of

... generating a plurality of individual keys based on a main key, each of said plurality of individual keys being different from one another; generating a plurality of individual decryption processes based on a main decryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another; and encrypting content based on an encryption process and the main key, wherein only a one of the plurality of individual keys is used in conjunction with only a one of the plurality of decryption processes, and each of the plurality of decryption processes and its respective individual key can decrypt content encrypted by the encryption process.

Applicant's amended claim 17 contains the limitations of

... generate a plurality of individual keys based on a main key, each of said plurality of individual keys being different from one another; generate a plurality of individual decryption processes based on a main decryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another; and encrypt content based on an encryption process and the main key, wherein only a one of the plurality of individual keys is used in conjunction with only a one of the plurality of decryption processes, and each of the plurality of decryption processes and its respective individual key can decrypt content encrypted by the encryption process.

Applicant's amended claim 21 contains the limitations of

... distribute a plurality of individual keys to a plurality of customers, each of said plurality of individual keys being different from one another; distribute a plurality of individual decryption processes to the plurality of customers, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another, and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another; and distribute cypher-content to the plurality of customers, wherein only a one of the plurality of individual keys is used in conjunction with only a one of the plurality of decryption processes, and each of the plurality of decryption processes and its respective individual key can decrypt cypher-content encrypted by a main encryption process.

That is, users each have a different decryption process for decrypting content encrypted with the encryption process. Each of the differing decryption processes has individual keys. Each decryption process decrypts an encrypted content differently from one another. For example, if a plurality of users wanted to download/receive the same content (e.g., a same video stream, a same audio stream, etc.), each user will have a different decryption process (e.g., a different application program created for the specific user). Therefore, a user could not use their specific decryption process to decrypt the content that was sent/received by another user, even if the content is the same.

Slavin discloses a method for encrypted communication where messages are created and public keys are looked up for a recipient. The message is encoded by a first process using a first portion of the public key to generate an intermediate encoded message. Then a second encoding process uses a second portion of the public key to generate the final encoded message. The final encoded message is sent to a recipient. "To decode the message, the receiver has created a decoding key as a function of the prime factors used to create the encoding key." (Slavin, column 6, lines 31-34). That is, each recipient uses the same decoding process and different decoding keys.

It is asserted in the Office Action that Slavin generates different decryption processes E_n . (Office Action, page 3). Applicant could not find different decryption processes E_n anywhere in Slavin. Assuming the Office Action meant E_m , Slavin discloses that E_m are public encoding keys. (Slavin, column 4, lines 15-20). Slavin does not teach, disclose or suggest the limitations in claim 1 of

the decryption generating section to generate a plurality of individual decryption processes based on the main decryption section and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes is different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another,

the limitations in claim 7 of

generating a plurality of individual decryption processes based on a main decryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another,

the limitations in claim 17 of

generate a plurality of individual decryption processes based on a main decryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another,

nor the limitations of claim 21 of

distribute a plurality of individual decryption processes to the plurality of customers, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another, and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another.

Leppek discloses a "virtual" encryption method that uses a sequence of encryptor operators to form a compound encryption operator. Leppek further discloses that "the data processing scheme of the present invention is effectively a 'virtual' encryption and decryption scheme, as it does not actually perform any encrypting of the data, but rather assembles selected ones of a plurality of true encryption mechanisms into a cascaded sequence of successively different encryption operators." (Leppek, column 4, lines 48-59). Leppek simply uses decryption operators from a decryption operator database to decrypt the stream that was virtually encrypted with a sequence of encryptor operators. The decryption process and encryption process does not change. That is, operators change, but the same process encrypts/decrypts content. Leppek does not teach, disclose or suggest the limitations in claim 1 of

the decryption generating section to generate a plurality of individual decryption processes based on the main decryption section and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes is different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another,

the limitations in claim 7 of

generating a plurality of individual decryption processes based on a main decryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another,

the limitations in claim 17 of

generate a plurality of individual decryption processes based on a main decryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another,

nor the limitations of claim 21 of

distribute a plurality of individual decryption processes to the plurality of customers, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another, and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another.

Kousa discloses a voice network security system for transmitting voice messages between remote locations for use in a business environment. Kousa discloses an encryption process and a decryption process that use two keys, where at least one is secret.

Kousa does not teach, disclose or suggest the limitations in claim 1 of

the decryption generating section to generate a plurality of individual decryption processes based on the main

decryption section and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes is different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another,

the limitations in claim 7 of

generating a plurality of individual decryption processes based on a main decryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another,

the limitations in claim 17 of

generate a plurality of individual decryption processes based on a main decryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another,

nor the limitations of claim 21 of

distribute a plurality of individual decryption processes to the plurality of customers, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another, and each different individual decryption process to decrypt an encrypted content differently from one another.

Further, even if the disclosures of Slavin, Leppek and Kousa were combined, the way each cryptographic system works are so different that the combined invention would teach away from each disclosure and the combined invention could not work.

Moreover, by viewing the disclosures of Slavin, Leppek and Kousa, one can not jump to the conclusion of obviousness without impermissible hindsight. According to MPEP 2142,

[t]o reach a proper determination under 35 U.S.C. 103, the examiner must step backward in time and into the shoes

worn by the hypothetical 'person of ordinary skill in the art' when the invention was unknown and just before it was made. In view of all factual information, the examiner must then make a determination whether the claimed invention 'as a whole' would have been obvious at that time to that person. Knowledge of applicant's disclosure must be put aside in reaching this determination, yet kept in mind in order to determine the 'differences,' conduct the search and evaluate the 'subject matter as a whole' of the invention. The tendency to resort to 'hindsight' based upon applicant's disclosure is often difficult to avoid due to the very nature of the examination process. However, impermissible hindsight must be avoided and the legal conclusion must be reached on the basis of the facts gleaned from the prior art.

Applicant submits that without first reviewing Applicant's disclosure, no thought, whatsoever, would have been made to generating individual decryption processes that are each different from one another and that decrypts encrypted content differently from one another.

Therefore, neither Slavin, Leppek, Kousa, nor the combination of the three teach, disclose or suggest the limitations contained in Applicant's amended claims 1, 7, 17 and 21, as listed above. Since neither Slavin, Leppek, Kousa nor the combination of the three teach, disclose or suggest all the limitations of Applicant's amended claims 1, 7, 17 and 21, Applicant's amended claims 1, 7, 17 and 21 are not obvious over Slavin in view of Leppek and Kousa since a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been met under MPEP §2142. Additionally, the claims that directly or indirectly depend from amended claims 1, 7 and 17, namely claims 2-3, 8-11, and 18-20, respectively, would also not be obvious over Slavin in view of Leppek and Kousa for the same reason.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections for Claims 1-3, 7-11 and 17-21 are respectfully requested.

B. It is asserted in the Office Action that claims 4-6, 12-16, 24, 26-28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kousa in view of Leppek and further in view of U. S. Patent 4,503,287 issued to Morris et al ("Morris"). Applicant respectfully traverses the aforementioned rejection for the following reasons.

Applicant's amended claim 4 contains the limitations of

... a key generating section, the key generating section to generate a plurality of individual keys based on a main key, each of said plurality of individual keys being different from one another; an encryption generating section coupled to the key generating section and a main encryption section, the encryption generating section to generate a plurality of individual encryption processes based on the main encryption section and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual encryption processes being different from one another and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a decrypted content differently from one another; and a main decryption section, the main decryption section using the main key to decrypt cypher-content, wherein only a one of the plurality of individual keys is used in conjunction with only a one of the plurality of encryption processes, and each of the plurality of encryption processes and its respective individual key can encrypt content to be decrypted by the main decryption section.

Applicant's amended claim 12 contains the limitations of

... generating a plurality of individual keys based on a main key, each of said plurality of individual keys being different from one another; generating a plurality of individual encryption processes based on a main encryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual encryption processes being different from one another and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a content differently than each other; and decrypting cypher-content based on a main decryption process and the main key, wherein only a one of the plurality of individual keys is used in conjunction with only a one of the plurality of encryption processes, and each of the plurality of encryption processes and its respective individual key can encrypt cipher-content to be decrypted by the main decryption process.

Applicant's amended claim 24 contains the limitations of

... generate a plurality of individual keys based on a main key, each of said plurality of individual keys being different from one another; generate a plurality of individual encryption processes based on a main encryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a decrypted content differently from one another; and decrypt cypher-content based on a main decryption process and the main key, wherein only a one of the plurality of individual keys is used in conjunction with only a one of the plurality of encryption processes, and each of the plurality of encryption processes and its respective individual key can encrypt cypher-content to be decrypted by the main decryption process.

Applicant's amended claim 28 contains the limitations of

distribute a plurality of individual keys to a plurality of customers, each of said plurality of individual keys being different from one another; distribute a plurality of individual encryption processes to the plurality of customers, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another, and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a decrypted content differently from one another; and receive cypher-content from the plurality of customers, wherein only a one of the plurality of individual keys is used in conjunction with only a one of the plurality of encryption processes, and each of the plurality of encryption processes and its respective individual key can encrypt cypher-content to be decrypted by a main decryption process.

Applicant has discussed Leppek and Kousa above regarding decryption.

Neither Leppek nor Kousa, however, teach, disclose or suggest generating a plurality of encryption processes where each encryption process is different from one another and each encryption process encrypts content differently than one another. Neither Leppek nor Kousa teach, disclose or suggest Applicant's limitations in claim 4 of

the encryption generating section to generate a plurality of individual encryption processes based on the main

encryption section and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual encryption processes being different from one another and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a decrypted content differently from one another,

the limitations in claim 12 of

generating a plurality of individual encryption processes based on a main encryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual encryption processes being different from one another and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a content differently than each other,

the limitations of claim 24 of

generate a plurality of individual encryption processes based on a main encryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a decrypted content differently from one another,

nor the limitations of claim 28 of

distribute a plurality of individual encryption processes to the plurality of customers, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another, and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a decrypted content differently from one another.

Morris is relied on for disclosing the Master key is used to decipher the session encryptor key, which is transmitted as cipher text. (Office Action, page 6, third paragraph). Nowhere in Morris is it taught, suggested or disclosed to generate a plurality of encryption processes that are different from one another and can encrypt content differently from one another (e.g., the same content would be encrypted differently for each encryption process). Morris, however, does not teach, disclose or suggest Applicant's limitations in claim 4 of

the encryption generating section to generate a plurality of individual encryption processes based on the main encryption section and the plurality of individual keys, each

of said plurality of individual encryption processes being different from one another and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a decrypted content differently from one another,

the limitations in claim 12 of

generating a plurality of individual encryption processes based on a main encryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual encryption processes being different from one another and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a content differently than each other,

the limitations of claim 24 of

generate a plurality of individual encryption processes based on a main encryption process and the plurality of individual keys, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a decrypted content differently from one another,

nor the limitations of claim 28 of

distribute a plurality of individual encryption processes to the plurality of customers, each of said plurality of individual decryption processes being different from one another, and each different individual encryption process to encrypt a decrypted content differently from one another.

Therefore, even if the inventions of Kousa, Leppek and Morris were combined, the resulting invention would still not teach, disclose or suggest Applicant's claimed limitations in claims 4, 12, 24 and 28. Since Kousa, Leppek, Morris, or the combination of the three do not teach, disclose or suggest all the limitations of Applicant's amended claims 4, 12, 24 and 28, as listed above, Applicant's amended claims 4, 12, 24 and 28 are not obvious over Kousa, Leppek and Morris since a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been met under MPEP §2142. Additionally, the claims that directly or indirectly depend from amended claims 4, 12, 24 and 28, namely claims 5-6, 13-16, 26-27, and 30, respectively, would also not be obvious over Kousa, Leppek and Morris for the same reason.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections for claims 4-6, 12-16, 26-28 and 30 are respectfully requested.

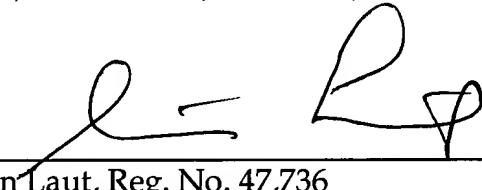
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending, namely 1-21, 24, 26-28 and 30, patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN LLP

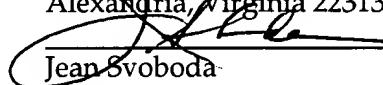
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